

The Botanical Club of the A. A. A. S.

A meeting of the Botanical Club for organization was convened immediately following the vice-presidential address before Section G, on Thursday afternoon, August 29th. In the absence of the officers for 1895 the meeting was called to order by Geo. F. Atkinson, president for the Brooklyn meeting. David F. Day, of Buffalo, N. Y., was chosen as chairman *pro tem.* and H. L. Bolley of Fargo, N. D., as secretary. Adjourned.

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 30TH.

The Club was called to order at 9:00 o'clock A. M., with President Douglas H. Campbell in the chair, and H. L. Bolley acting as secretary. About fifty persons were in attendance.

HALSTED, BYRON D.: *Field experiments with beans.*—Beans grown for the third successive crop upon a plot of ground (one-tenth acre) gave 25 per cent. of pods that were spotted with anthracnose. An adjoining plot of the same size as the first and in every way similar except that it had borne no previous crop of beans, gave only six per cent. of spotted pods.

COVILLE, F. V.: *Crimson clover hair-balls.*—These balls, measuring two or three inches in diameter, were taken from the stomach of horses, whose death they had caused. They were compact, and much resembled the hair-balls often found in stomachs of ruminants, but were entirely composed of the small barbed trichomes from the mature calyx of crimson clover (*Trifolium incarnatum*).

COOK, O. F.: *A peculiar habit of a Liberian species of Polyporus.*—This species produces long stipes, each successive one starting from the upper portion of the preceding one, or even from the pileus, in a proliferous manner. This continues until the plant becomes top heavy, and falls over upon the ground. Specimens were shown. The habit enables the fungus to lift the pileus well above water during the wet season.

BOLLEY, H. L.: *An apparatus for the bacteriological sampling of well waters.*—This is a modification of the apparatus already in use to secure samples of deep sea waters.

POLLARD, C. L.: *Methods of work on the National Her-*

barium.—The transfer of the herbarium from the rooms of the Department of Agriculture to those of the Smithsonian Institution was spoken of, and the method of mounting and caring for the specimens described.

In the discussion it was developed that the resolutions of the Club and the requests of the botanists of the country had had material effect in bring about the transfer of the collections to a fireproof building.

BRITTON, ELIZABETH G.: *Some notes on Dicranella heteromalla and allied species*.—A drawing of a small mountain form with curved pedicels was shown, and it was pointed out that *D. Fitzgeraldi* is referable to *D. heteromalla orthocarpa*.

The report of the committee of the Club to prepare a check list of plants of northeastern North America was called up and somewhat discussed, but owing to the lateness of the hour was interrupted by adjournment.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 30TH.

The Club met immediately after adjournment of the afternoon session of section G. The unfinished business was a pending motion to accept the report of the committee on the check list. It was agreed that a discussion of the principles upon which that list is based was in order. After a prolonged discussion of various points, by Messrs. Robinson, Coville, Britton, Cook, Fernow, Barnes, Galloway, Bailey, Greene, and others, a resolution was offered by Mr. Britton increasing the committee on nomenclature by the addition of C. S. Sargent and B. L. Robinson, and directing the committee to report to the Club desirable modifications and additions to the present code. Mr. Robinson having repeatedly declined to serve as a member of the committee, Mr. L. H. Bailey was appointed in his stead. The Club then adjourned.

MONDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 2D.

The Club was called to order at 9:20 o'clock, A. M., with David F. Day, president *pro tem.* in the chair, and H. L. Bolley acting as secretary. About thirty persons were present.

Upon motion a committee to nominate officers for the next meeting was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Britton, Seaman and Deane. The report of the treasurer was received, which showed a balance in the treasury of \$6.57.

Papers were then read as follows:

BRITTON, ELIZABETH G.: *Corrections in descriptions of Coscinodon.*—A drawing of *C. Raui* was exhibited, some mistakes in the description of the leaf, and peristome corrected, and a comparison with allied species made.

The following papers, in the absence of the authors, were read by title only:

TRELEASE, WILLIAM: *Notes upon pignut hickories.*

HALSTED, B. D.: *Experiments with lime as a preventive of club-root.*

SMITH, ERWIN F.: *Notes on the alkaline reaction of the vascular juices of plants.*

ATKINSON, GEO. F.: *Continuation of experiments upon the relation between the fertile and the sterile leaves of Onoclea.*

ROLFS, P. H.: *A hybrid between an egg plant and a tomato plant.*

WOODS, A. F.: *A method of using formalin gelatin as a mounting medium.*

This completed the printed program, and additional papers were called for.

ARTHUR, J. C.: *A new clinostat.*—An apparatus was shown and described, which would slowly revolve four flower pots at the same time, with a uniform speed, two of the pots having a position at right angles to the other two. By the movement of a lever it could be converted into an intermittent clinostat, the pots turning half around each half hour, or hour, as desired.

SEYMOUR, A. B.: *Description of the collection made by Miss Gilbreth to illustrate seed distribution.*—This paper was read by Mrs. Flora W. Patterson, the author being absent. It described quite fully this admirable collection, and request was made for donations or exchanges to extend it and make it more complete. A discussion followed upon various modes of seed dispersion.

David F. Day called attention to the curious intermittent method of twining observed in *Dioscorea*, and also to a circumnutation of the pedicels of *Anemone Virginiana*.

The report of the nominating committee was now received and adopted, and the following officers of the Club for 1896 were thereby elected: President, F. V. Coville, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; Vice-President, Conway Macmillan, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.; Secretary and Treasurer, John F. Cowell, Buffalo, N. Y. Adjourned.